

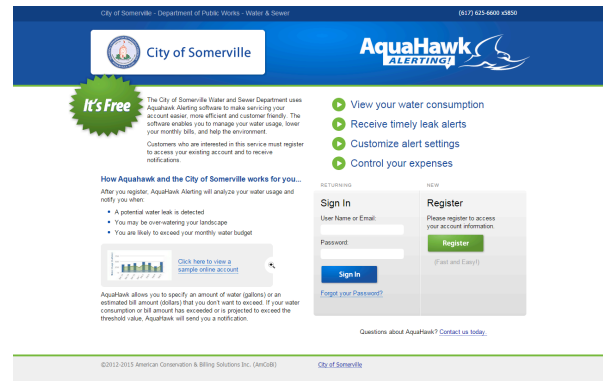
Water Saving Tips Can Lower Your Bill & Help the Environment

Manage Your Water Bill with AquaHawk

With the City's AquaHawk service, you can track your water usage between bills at no cost to avoid any surprises. You'll get alerts if our meters indicate you may have a costly water leak. You can also visit the online portal to see all the details of your water use. Or, just visit once to set your preferred water bill maximum or usage level, and then receive alerts by phone, text, or email when you are approaching either. You can even see water usage by area households of similar size to see how you compare. Just visit soma.aquahawk.us or call 311 (617-666-3311) to sign up. It's free.

No-Cost Water Saving Tips:

- Wait to run your dishwasher or your clothes washer until it's full.
- Put food scraps in the trash or compost instead of the garbage disposal.
- Take showers instead of baths, and take shorter showers. Five minutes is a good goal to set.
- Turn off the water while you brush your teeth or shave.
- Capture and reuse clean water in your home such as the cold water that flows out while you wait for hot water or the water used to boil eggs and—once it's cool—use it to water your plants.
- If you don't have a low-flow toilet, try putting a plastic bottle in the toilet tank to lower the flow yourself. Fill the bottle with water, place it in the toilet tank (don't dislodge the flapper!) and then save water with every flush.
- Don't toss items in the toilet that could go in the trash such as tissues. Flushing unnecessarily can waste gallons of water.



More Water Saving Tips Worth the Investment

- Repair leaky faucets because those little drops add up. One leaky faucet can waste more than 1,000 gallons of water per year.
- Get a low-flow shower-head to save a couple of gallons per minute.
- Make sure you don't have a toilet leak, which can waste hundreds of gallons of water per day without you knowing it. To test for a leak, place a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank (not the bowl). If any color shows up in the bowl after 15 minutes, you have a leak. (Flush right away after the dye test to avoid staining the tank.) If you have a leak, fix it right away.
- Learn about rubber toilet flappers. Flappers are the little round rubber cap inside your toilet tank. They're cheap to replace but expensive to ignore. An old one that no longer fits well can cause a costly leak. To check yours, use the food dye test above. If you have a leak, make sure the flapper is sitting properly. If not, consult your hardware store or a plumber on how to replace yours.
- Purchase a kitchen faucet aerator to reduce flow without losing water pressure.